

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

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Investigation by the Department	)	
pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 2.00 et	)	
seq., commencing a Rulemaking	)	
establishing the procedures to be	)	
followed in electric industry	)	D.P.U. 96-100
restructuring by electric companies	)	
subject to c. 164	)	
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**COMMENTS OF AFFILIATED MUNICIPALITIES**

**Pursuant to the Order of the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") dated May 1, 1996, the Affiliated Municipalities noted below submit the following comments in response to the Department's Proposed Rules Governing the Restructuring of the Electric Industry in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 220 C.M.R. 11.00 et seq.**

**The following municipalities have joined together for the purpose of filing these comments and preserving their rights to present oral testimony subsequent at public hearings. The Affiliated Municipalities include: Acton, Andover, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Boxborough, Burlington, Carlisle, Dracut, Manchester-by-the-Sea, North Andover, North Reading, Peabody, Tewksbury, Watertown, Wenham, Westford, West Newbury, Wilmington, and Winchester.**

**These communities have joined together to voice their support of the principle that municipal governments should have the broadest possible array of options for assisting, directly or indirectly, in the exercise of retail choice by the residents and businesses within their borders. The Affiliated Municipalities encourage the Department to require utilities to file tariffs which facilitate the implementation of load**

**aggregation, particularly aggregation by municipal choice. Municipal aggregation would provide another means for all customers to share in the benefits of increased competition.**

**The Affiliated Municipalities are aware of, and generally supportive of, the views filed by Edward L. Selgrade, attorney for the Town of Lexington. While none of the communities noted above has formally adopted or noted the positions outlined in the Town of Lexington's filing dated May 24, 1996, the communities generally endorse the principles and concepts included in this filing. The Town of Lexington's comments include several worthwhile points that would assist in the implementation of municipal aggregation.**

**Sincerely,**

**AFFILIATED MUNICIPALITIES**

**By their Representative,**

**Steven M. Rothstein  
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**May 24, 1996**